

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A surface cleaning apparatus, comprising:

- a) a body having a forward compartment and rear compartment, wherein the forward compartment includes a wall;
- b) an elongate rotatable brush extending across the forward compartment and positioned to propel debris up the wall;
- c) an electric motor in the rear compartment;
- d) a belt connecting the motor and rotatable brush; and
- e) a cleaning strip assembly pivotably mounted on an underside of the body, the cleaning strip assembly comprising an elongate support member housed within an underside of the wall, a flexible strip extending along substantially the entire length of the elongate support member, and a plurality of tabs for engaging a surface being cleaned, the engagement of the plurality of tabs with the surface being capable of causing the cleaning strip assembly to pivot between a cleaning position and an elevated position.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein flexible strip extends radially from the support member along substantially the entire length of the elongate support member.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the plurality of tabs cause the cleaning strip assembly to pivot into a cleaning position when the surface cleaning apparatus moves in a first direction.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the plurality of tabs cause the cleaning strip assembly to pivot into an elevated position when the surface cleaning apparatus moves in a second direction.

40. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 35, further comprising an intermediate compartment defined by a the wall, which is between the forward compartment and the intermediate compartment, a wall between the intermediate compartment and the rear compartment, and side walls.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein one side wall is removable to facilitate removal of debris.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the removable side wall includes a cover.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the belt is enclosed within a tunnel that passes through the intermediate compartment.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 43, wherein one side wall is removable to facilitate removal of debris and the tunnel is arranged at a side remote from the removable side wall.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the wall between the forward and intermediate compartments is inclined rearwardly.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the wall between the intermediate and rear compartments seals the rear compartment from the intermediate compartment.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein a front part of the forward compartment is movable to expose bristles on the elongate rotatable brush at the front part of the forward compartment.

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the rear compartment is provided with ground-engaging wheels.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, further comprising a handle rotatable about an axial direction of the handle to facilitate steering of the apparatus.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 49, wherein the handle is further pivotable about an axis transverse to the axial direction of the handle.

51. (Currently Amended) A surface cleaning apparatus comprising:

a housing;

an elongate brush arrangement mounted so as to be rotatable about a longitudinal axis thereof, ~~and extending across the housing for contacting a surface to be cleaned, and positioned to propel debris up a wall within the housing;~~

a substantially continuous surface cleaning strip extending across an underside of the housing;

movement responsive means including friction engaging means adapted to engage the surface to be cleaned and movable in opposing first and second directions in response to movement of the apparatus in opposing first and second directions relative to the surface to be cleaned, movement of the friction engaging means being transmitted to the cleaning strip; and

movement stop means adapted to allow the cleaning strip to adopt a first orientation, a second orientation, and orientations between the first orientation and second orientation, and to prevent the cleaning strip from adopting orientations beyond the first orientation or second orientation,

~~wherein movement of the apparatus in the first direction causes the cleaning strip to adopt a the first orientation relative to the housing such that in use a substantially continuous edge of the cleaning strip contacts the surface to be cleaned, and movement of the apparatus in the second~~

~~direction causes the cleaning strip to adopt a the second orientation relative to the housing so as to raise the cleaning strip clear of the surface to be cleaned~~

wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engaging means are mounted on an elongate member which is pivotably mounted within an underside of the wall, whereby contact between the friction engaging means and the surface to be cleaned causes the elongate member to pivot such that the cleaning strip adopts one of the first and second orientations.

52. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 51, wherein the cleaning strip is mounted on a support which is movable between first and second positions by the movement responsive means in response to movement of the surface cleaning apparatus.

53-56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~56~~51, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engaging means project substantially radially from the elongate member.

58. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 57, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engaging means extend at different angles relative to each other.

59. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 58, wherein an included angle between the cleaning strip and the friction engaging means is substantially 45 degrees.

60. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~56~~51, wherein the friction engaging means comprises a tab extending from the elongate member.

61. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~56~~51, wherein the elongate member comprises a flexible material.

62. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~56~~51, wherein the cleaning strip and the friction engaging means are formed integrally with the elongate member.

63. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~56~~51, wherein the elongate member comprises a recessed groove and the cleaning strip comprises a projection of complementary configuration adapted to retain the cleaning strip in the recessed groove.

64. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 63, wherein the recessed groove and the projection are substantially T-shaped.

65. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 51, wherein the cleaning strip is configured to extend towards the surface to be cleaned by 2.5 to 8 mm.

66. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 65, wherein the cleaning strip is adapted to extend by substantially 4.5 mm.

67. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 51, further comprising means for inhibiting the movement of the cleaning strip in the longitudinal direction thereof.

68. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 67, wherein the movement inhibiting means is movable to allow replacement of the cleaning strip.

69. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 67, wherein the movement inhibiting means is removable to allow replacement of the cleaning strip.

70. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 51, wherein the cleaning strip comprises a flexible material.

71. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 51, wherein the friction engaging means comprises a flexible material.

72. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 51, further comprising a motor provided within the housing for rotating the brush arrangement.

73. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 72, further comprising a battery within the housing for energizing the motor.

74. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 73, wherein the battery is rechargeable.

75. (Currently Amended) A surface cleaning apparatus comprising:
a housing ~~having a cavity in the underside;~~
an elongate rotatable brush arrangement extending across the housing and positioned to propel debris up a wall within the housing;

an elongate support member housed in ~~the~~ a cavity in an underside of the wall;
a substantially continuous surface cleaning strip extending across an underside of the housing, the surface cleaning strip being mounted on the elongate support member, the elongate support member being rotatable between a cleaning orientation where the surface cleaning strip contacts a surface to be cleaned, and a second orientation where the surface cleaning strip is raised clear of the surface to be cleaned; and

at least one surface engagement structure mounted on the elongate support member in an orientation relative to the surface cleaning strip such that in the cleaning orientation the surface engagement structure contacts a ~~first wall of the cavity wall,~~ first wall of the cavity wall, and in the second orientation the surface engagement structure contacts the surface to be cleaned;

wherein movement of the surface engagement structure in a cleaning direction causes the cleaning strip to adopt the cleaning orientation and wherein movement of the surface engagement structure in a direction opposite to the cleaning direction causes the cleaning strip to adopt the second orientation.

76-78. (Canceled)

79. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 75, wherein the cleaning strip and the surface engagement structure project substantially radially from the elongate member.

80. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 79, wherein the cleaning strip and the surface engagement structure extend at different angles relative to each other.

81. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 80, wherein an included angle between the cleaning strip and the surface engagement structure is substantially 45 degrees.

82. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~75~~ 75, wherein the surface engagement structure comprises a tab extending from the elongate member.

83. (Currently Amended) A surface cleaning apparatus, comprising:
a body having a forward compartment and rear compartment, wherein the forward compartment includes a rear wall;

an elongate rotatable brush extending across the forward compartment and positioned to propel debris up the wall;

a belt connecting an electric motor to the rotatable brush; and

a cleaning strip assembly pivotably mounted on an underside of the body, the cleaning strip assembly comprising an elongate support member housed within an underside of the wall, a flexible strip extending along substantially the entire length of the elongate support member, and a plurality of tabs for engaging a surface being cleaned, the engagement of the plurality of tabs with the surface being capable of causing the cleaning strip assembly to pivot between a cleaning position and an elevated position.

84. (Canceled)

85. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 83, wherein the flexible strip extends radially from the support member along substantially the entire length of the elongate support member.

86. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 85, wherein the elongate support member extends along substantially the entire length of the body.

87-88. (Canceled)

89. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 83, further comprising an intermediate compartment defined by a the wall, which is between the forward compartment and the intermediate compartment, a wall between the intermediate compartment and the rear compartment, and side walls.

90. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 89, wherein the wall between the forward and intermediate compartments is inclined rearwardly.

91. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 89, wherein the wall between the intermediate and rear compartments seals the rear compartment from the intermediate compartment.

92. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 83, wherein a front part of the forward compartment is movable to expose bristles on the elongate rotatable brush at the front part of the forward compartment.

93. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 83, wherein the forward compartment further comprises an opening in a lower surface thereof, and wherein a lower front region of the body is chamfered so that bristles of the elongate brush protrude from the body in the region of the chamfer such that, when the apparatus is inclined relative to a surface to be cleaned, contact between the bristles and the surface to be cleaned is increased.

94. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 75, wherein in the second orientation the surface cleaning strip contacts a second cavity wall.